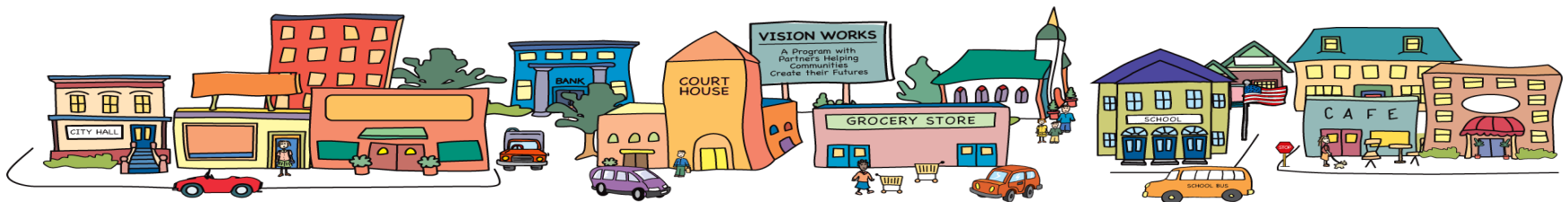


Breakthrough Solutions for the 21st Century Economy

*Helping Communities and Regions
Create Their Future*

NCARED Retreat
January 26,27 2006

UofA
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS
DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
Cooperative Extension Service

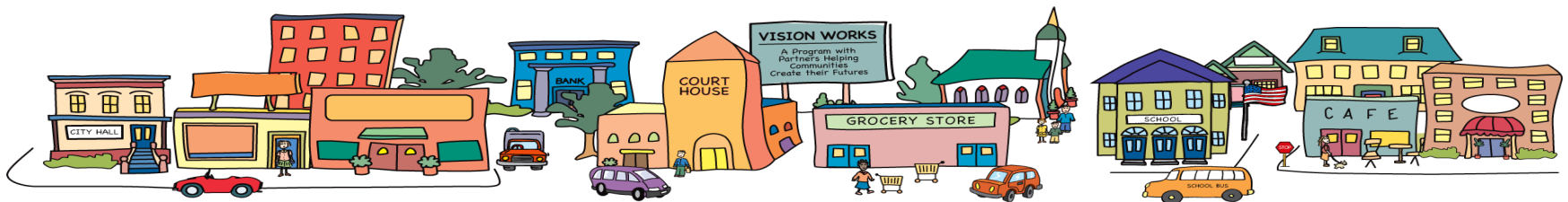


Formerly VISION 2010 –

A Program of the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service

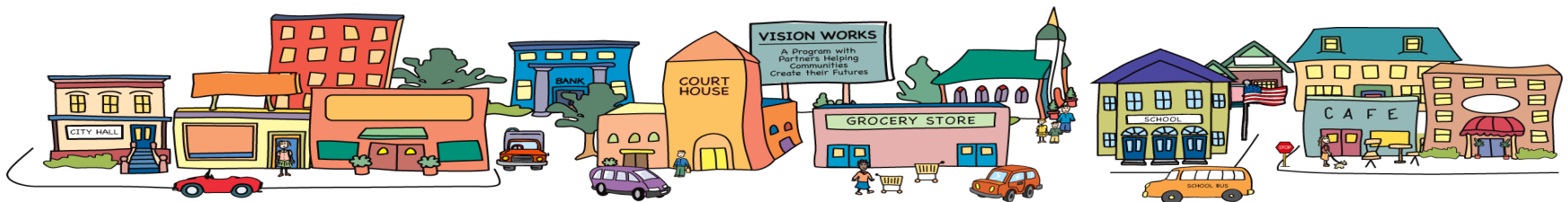
Purpose: To build healthy, sustainable communities in the information age

- 21 Arkansas communities participated in VISION 2010 seminars and returned to vision, plan, and take action.
- They involved over 9,000 citizens and implemented projects worth over \$70 million.
- This averages \$4.3 million for each community that involved citizens in active participation in the program.
- VISION 2010 communities tapped a wide array of resources and continue to move forward.



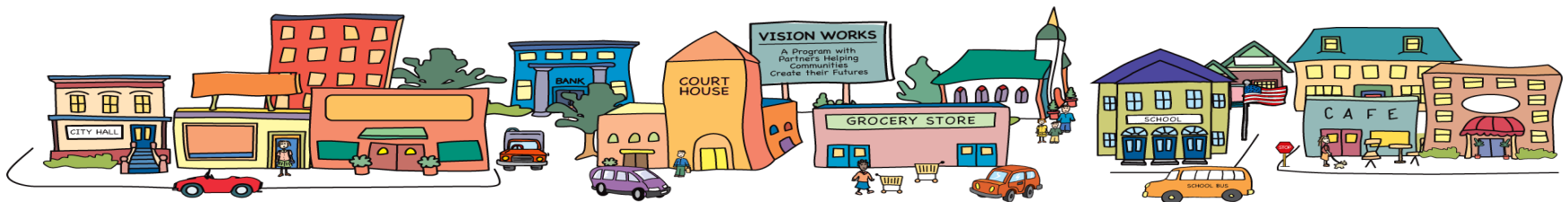
Program Recognition

- Received the Innovative Program Award and Outstanding Program Award from the international Community Development Society
- Selected by the Southern Growth Policies Board as a Promising Practice in 2005
- Visioning component selected by the International Community Development Council for inclusion in their C.D. Handbook, to be used in 5 Community Development Institutes across the nation



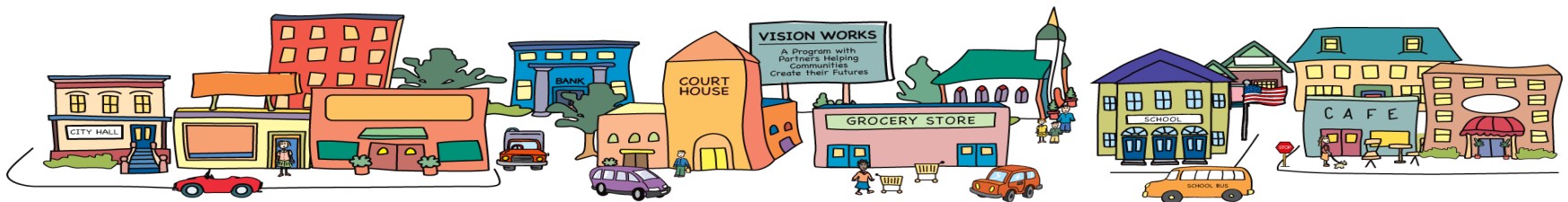
FEATURES: Breakthrough Solutions will:

- **Customize the program to meet the needs of the seven county NCARED region.**
- **Bring the program to the region and its participating counties, minimizing travel time for participants.**
- **Equip leaders to involve a broad base of citizens in creating their future.**
- **Teach participants to think differently – anticipating major forces and trends impacting the region.**
- **Incorporate technology, IT, and sustainability for regional development.**



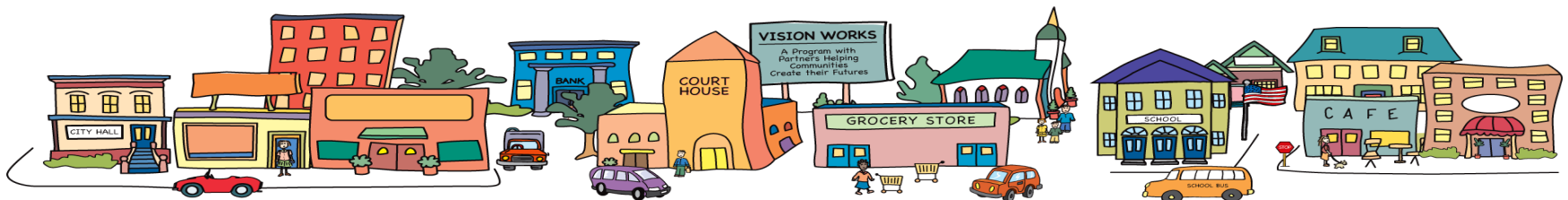
Breakthrough Solutions Delivers:

- An in-depth regional economic analysis by respected economist Dr. Wayne Miller. (value of \$30,000 - \$50,000 if done by a private sector consultant).
- A research report on focus groups with local high school youth (minimum 1 school per county).
- Development of strategy maps addressing key issues.
- Formation of study action teams take steps to enact strategies and realize goals.



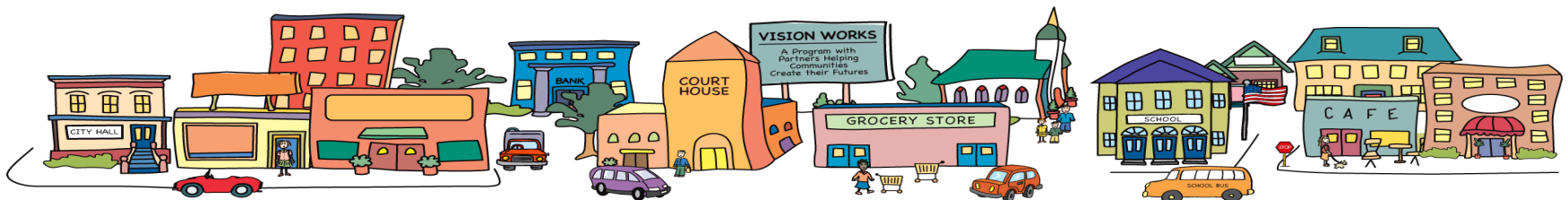
Also:

- One day Breakthrough Leadership Skills workshop to equip leaders to take action.
- Ongoing support of region for a total of 3 years.
- Opportunity to hear outstanding speakers and network with other communities at the Annual Conference.
- A customized NCARED regional Breakthrough Solutions Poster (copies for all action team members)
- First consideration for participation in first ever Breakthrough Solutions international tour to a connected country.



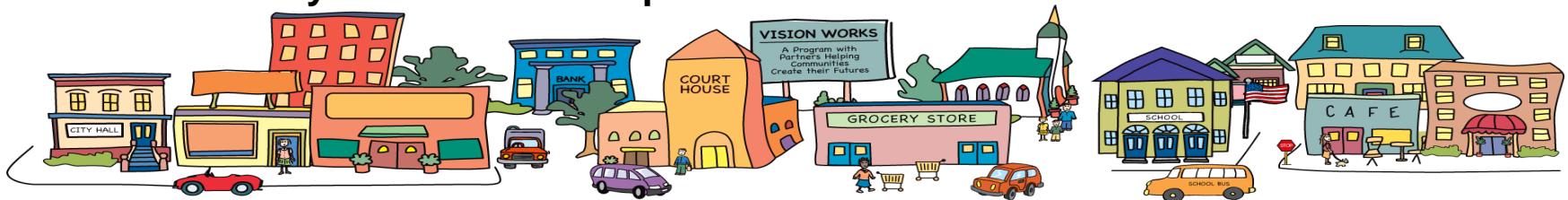
Additional U of A Extension Resources:

- Additional economic, community development, and leadership programs
- Public issues education
- Youth education and leadership development
- Home based business
- Environment and natural resources
- Family life, nutrition, and health
- Community beautification and horticulture
- Agriculture production and alternative agriculture



VisionWorks Partners

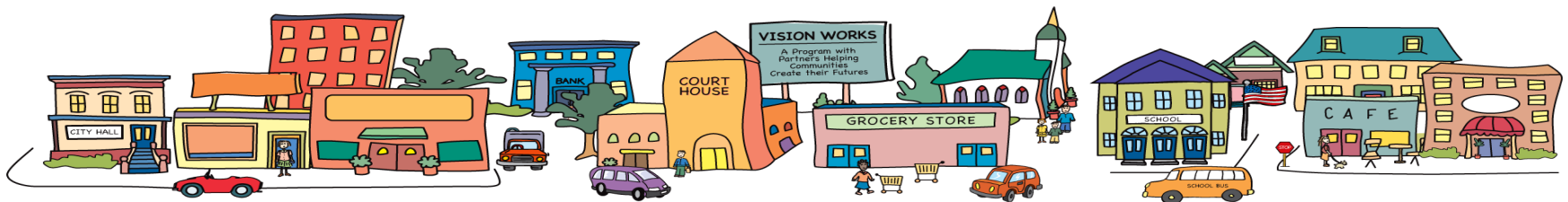
- Arkansas Community Foundation
- Arkansas Department of Economic Development
- Arkansas Electric Cooperatives
- Arkansas Geographic Information Services
- Arkansas Farm Bureau
- Arkansas Human Development Corporation
- Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce/Associated Industries of Arkansas
- Arkansas Science and Technology Authority (ASTA)
- CenturyTel
- Cromwell Architects Engineers
- Delta Center for Economic Development, Arkansas State University
- Hubbell and Associates
- National Park Community College
- SBC Arkansas
- Teamwork Arkansas, Entergy's Office of Economic Development
- University of Arkansas Fayetteville Global Marketing Support Services
- UALR Institute for Economic Advancement
- UALR Institute of Government
- UALR Arkansas Small Business Development Center
- University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service



Breakthrough Solutions is a fee-for-service program

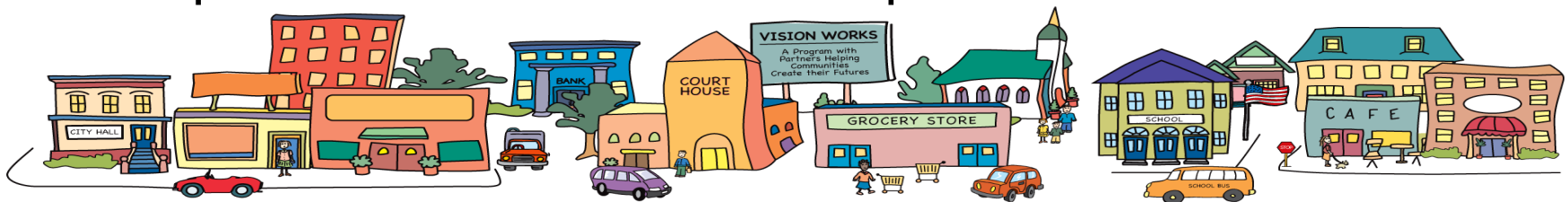
- Actual cost to deliver the
3 year program \$ 112,000
- Portion paid by U of A
Cooperative Extension \$ 62,000
- Investment by the
community* \$ 50,000

* Note – Region responsible for meeting room arrangements,
meals and breaks



Funding Examples

- In Jackson County, 600 people were invited to a meeting to discuss community and economic development. Over 100 individuals invested \$500 in *Jackson County Moving Forward*.
- In Garland County, 9 organizations in the public, private, and non-profit sectors pooled their resources to hire a community developer and operate the county-wide *Focus Garland County* community development program.
- In Gravette (pop. 1,412), the mayor led a campaign to raise \$333,000 which was matched by the state highway department for a railroad overpass.

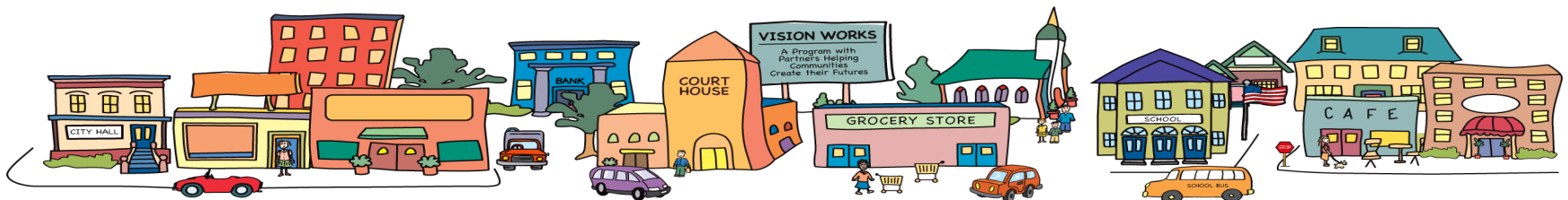


One community, Jacksonport, had a \$25,000 decision to make in 1872

Their decision cost them \$2.06 billion dollars.

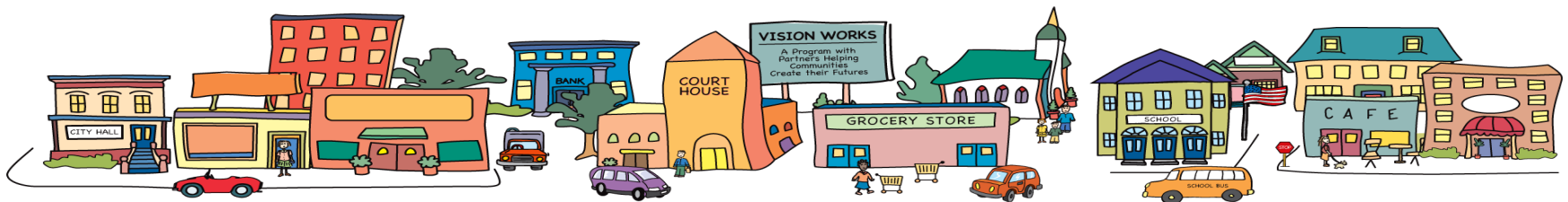
The North Central Arkansas region has a decision to make in 2006.

How will you invest in your future?



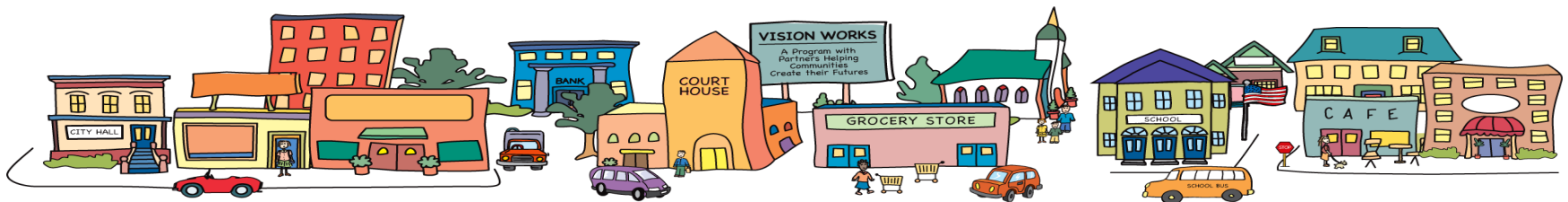
Next Steps

- Plan for program delivery, including:
 - Involvement of county teams



County Teams

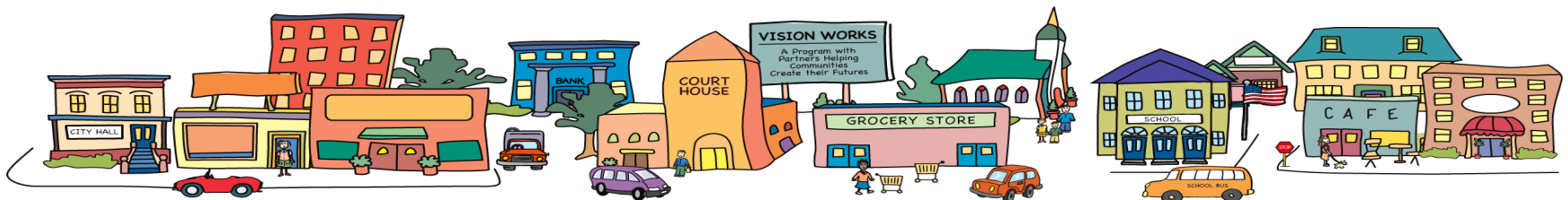
- Ensure that each county participates and benefits from program
- Gather local information to input to regional action teams
- Serve on regional action teams to enact strategies



County Team Activity

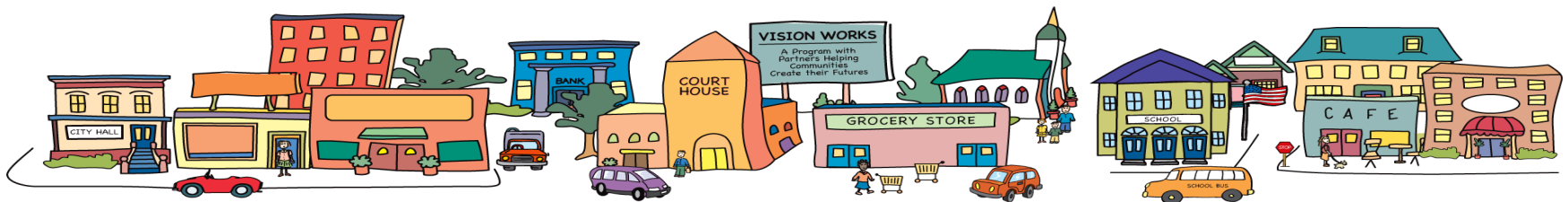
Meet with others from your county by the flip chart page with your county's name

- 1) Record your name.**
- 2) From the list of opportunities posted next to the flip chart, select those that you might like to be involved in. Record next to your name.**
- 3) Discuss and record a list of people from your county who should be involved.**



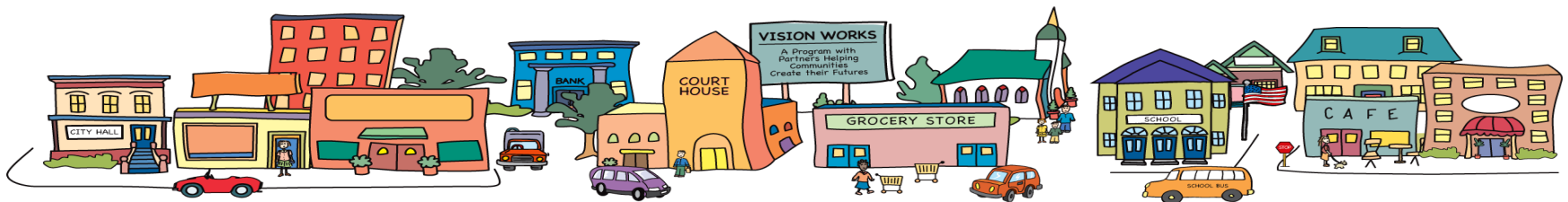
Next Steps

- Plan for program delivery, including:
 - Involvement of county teams
 - The M & M Tour (Breakthrough Solutions meets with teams in each county)



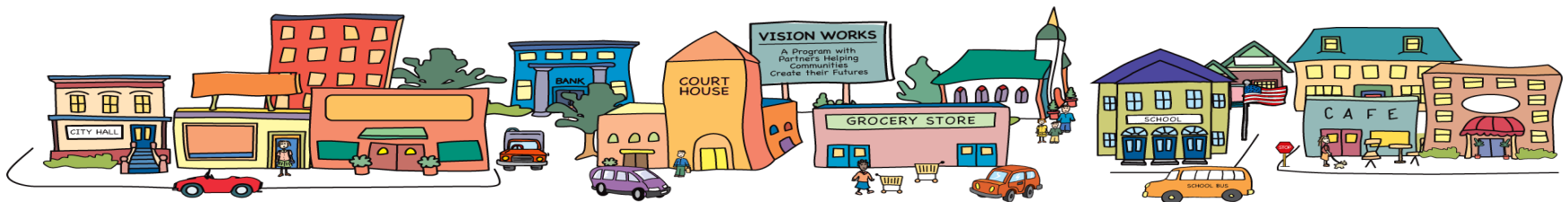
“M & M Tour”

- NCARED board member, County Extension Agent and other leaders form a team of county leaders representing various communities and sectors.
- Mark and Maureen conduct high school focus group, meet with county team on same day.



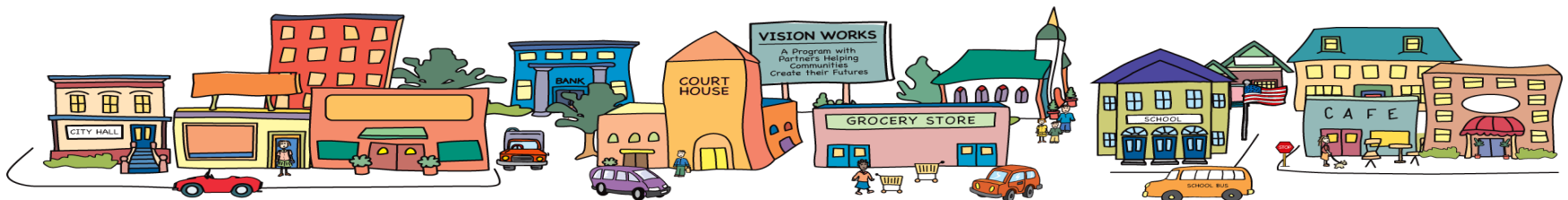
Next Steps

- Plan for program delivery, including:
 - Involvement of county teams
 - The M & M Tour (Breakthrough Solutions meets with teams in each county)
 - Set date for first workshop – Breakthrough Leadership Skills



Breakthrough Leadership Skills

- One day workshop dealing with:
 - Forming an effective team
 - Holding effective meetings
 - Engaging diverse populations
 - Conflict resolution
 - Effective team climate
 - Decision making through consensus.....and more



Breakthrough Solutions

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